

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 12, which starts with the words "This invention relates to" with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This invention relates to personal care absorbent articles such as disposable sanitary napkins (as seen in Figures 1, 2a and 2b), diapers (as seen in Figure 3), incontinence garments, and the like. These products typically have a liquid permeable body side liner, a liquid impervious baffle, and an absorbent core between the liner and baffle. Figure 1 specifically illustrates a top view of a feminine hygiene product 10 in accordance with the invention. A cross-sectional view of this product along lines 20-20 is shown in Figure 2a, and a cross-sectional view of an alternative embodiment of this product is shown in Figure 2b. As can be seen in Figure 1, an oblong-shaped target area 12 (shown in broken lines/ phantom) is situated along the top bodyside surface of the product. In Figure 3, a top view of a diaper 40 is shown with an oblong Target area 42. Areas within the target areas are designated respectively as 35 and 38, and areas outside the target areas are designated 37 and 39 respectively. The braces indicate that the areas outside the target areas extend throughout the various layers in the Z-direction and can be distinguished from the areas below the target areas. As can be seen in Figure 2a, the feminine hygiene product 10 includes a body side liner 14, an absorbent core 16, and a liquid impervious baffle 18, with the layers positioned along the Z direction of the product. As seen in Figures 2a and 2b, areas below the target area are designated as 36, and may correspond in the Z-direction to the areas defined by the target area 12. The core layer portions in the respective Figures below the target areas are designated 43 and 46. The core layer portions not below the target areas (outside the area below the target area) are designated 44 and 48. The distribution layer portion below the target area is designated 47.---